


56 April 18, 2017

BELLFLOWER UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

RESOLUTION
LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER**RESCHEDULING OF BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS FROM ODD TO EVEN YEAR ELECTIONS
COMMENCING WITH THE 2017 BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION**

WHEREAS, the Board of Education ("Board") of the Bellflower Unified School District ("District") consists of five members, Dr. Sue ElHessen, Laura Sanchez-Ramirez, Debbie Cuadros, Jerry Cleveland, and Dr. Paul Helzer; and,

WHEREAS, Education Code section 35105 sets forth the general rule that school district governing board members serve staggered terms and are elected in odd numbered years; and,

WHEREAS, currently the election of District Board members occurs every two years, on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years (e.g., November 2017), pursuant to Elections Code section 1302, subdivision (a); and,

WHEREAS, the next Board elections for the seats currently held by Dr. Sue ElHessen, Laura Sanchez-Ramirez, and Dr. Paul Helzer are currently scheduled for November 2017, and the next Board elections for the seats currently held by Debbie Cuadros and Jerry Cleveland are currently scheduled for November 2019; and,

WHEREAS, statewide general elections are held in California in November of even-numbered years, pursuant to Elections Code section 1001; and,

WHEREAS, generally, voter participation is greater for statewide general elections than for special local elections, including school board member elections; and,

WHEREAS, effective January 1, 2018, Senate Bill 415 adds Section 14050 *et seq.* to the Elections Code, requiring school districts to hold their governing board elections on the same date as statewide elections, if holding it on another date has previously resulted in a significant decrease in voter turnout (significant decrease in voter turnout is described as voter turnout at least 25% less than the average voter turnout for the previous four statewide general elections); and,

WHEREAS, voter participation within the boundaries of the Bellflower Unified School District has been at least 25% less during the previous four odd-numbered year local elections than during even-numbered year general elections; and,

WHEREAS, based on history of voter participation within the boundaries of the Bellflower Unified School District, the District is required to adopt a plan to transition to even-numbered year general elections no later than January 1, 2018, pursuant to Elections Code section 14052, subdivision (b); and,

WHEREAS, consolidating the District Board member elections with statewide general elections in even-numbered years will likely reduce the District's election costs; and,

WHEREAS, as set forth above, the District Board must adopt a resolution to establish Board member elections to occur on the same day as the statewide general election pursuant to Elections Code section 1302, subdivision (b), subject to approval by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors ("County Board of Supervisors"); and,

WHEREAS, the District Board's resolution to establish Board member elections on the same day as the statewide general election, must be submitted to the County Board of Supervisors no later than 240 days prior to the next regularly scheduled election; and,

WHEREAS, the next regularly scheduled election for District Board members is November 7, 2017, and 240 days prior to November 7, 2017, is March 12, 2017; and,

WHEREAS, within 60 days from the date that the District submits such a resolution to the County Board of Supervisors, the County Board of Supervisors must approve the resolution unless it finds that the ballot style, voting equipment, or computer capacity is such that additional elections or materials cannot be handled (Elec. Code § 10404.5, subd. (d)(1)); and,

WHEREAS, public notices of the proceeding in which the resolution is to be considered for adoption by the County Board of Supervisors must be made by County Board of Supervisors pursuant to Section 25151 of the Government Code; and,

WHEREAS, if the County Board of Supervisors approves the District Board's resolution to establish Board member elections on the same day as the statewide general election, the terms of all Board members are extended by one year pursuant to Elections Code section 10404.5, subdivision (g); and,

WHEREAS, the result of such actions would be staggered Board elections in even-numbered years, commencing with the next election for Board Members Dr. Sue ElHessen, Laura Sanchez-Ramirez, and Dr. Paul Helzer in November 2018, and the next election for Board members Debbie Cuadros and Jerry Cleveland in November 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education of the Bellflower Unified School District hereby finds and resolves that:

1. Board member elections shall be consolidated with the statewide general election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year.
2. The Superintendent is directed to submit this Resolution to the County Board of Supervisors not later than 240 days prior to the date of the currently scheduled November 2017 Board election.
3. Upon approval of this Resolution by the Board of Education, the District Superintendent shall cause a certified copy of this Resolution to be filed with the County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools.
4. If this Resolution is approved by the County Board of Supervisors, the terms of office of all members of the Board of the District shall be extended one (1) year, as described in Exhibit A, attached herein, and the District Board member elections will occur in even-numbered years.
5. The District Superintendent and his designees are hereby authorized and directed to take any other steps necessary to effectuate the purpose and intent of this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Bellflower Unified School District, Los Angeles County, California, on this 16th day of February, 2017 at a duly noticed meeting, by the following vote:

Ayes: 3 Noes: 1

Abstentions:

Absent: 1

I, Dr. Sue ElHessen, President of the Board of Education of the Bellflower Unified School District, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Resolution adopted by said Board of Education on the 16th day of February, 2017.

Date: 2/16/17



Dr. Sue ElHessen
President of the Board of Education of
Bellflower Unified School District

Exhibit A

<u>Board Member</u>	<u>Current Election Year</u>	<u>New Election Year</u>
Dr. Sue ElHessen	2017	2018
Laura Sanchez-Ramirez	2017	2018
Dr. Paul Helzer	2017	2018
Debbie Cuadros	2019	2020
Jerry Cleveland	2019	2020

**7.3.1.2. RESOLUTION - RESCHEDULING OF BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS
FROM ODD TO EVEN YEAR ELECTIONS COMMENCING WITH THE
2017 BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION
Consent Item**

Quick Summary / Abstract:

It is proposed that the Board of Education adopt the resolution to reschedule elections of Board of Education Members as presented on the attachment.

Rationale:

Senate Bill 415 requires school districts that hold their elections in odd-numbered year elections and have experienced "significant decrease in voter turnout," to adopt a plan to transition to even-numbered year general elections no later than January 1, 2018.

Comments:

Senate Bill 415

Financial Impact:

There will be no additional cost to the general fund budget.

Recommended Motion:

That the Board of Education adopt the resolution to reschedule elections of Board of Education Members as presented on the attachment.

Attachments:

Resolution - Rescheduling of Board Member Elections